

Appl. No. 10/663,717
Office Action mailed September 1, 2005
Response transmitted November 29, 2005

Attorney Docket 12361/224

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims in this application as follows. This listing replaces all previous versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A filter system for at least one deep fat fryer, ~~said fryer having a chassis and tank for containing oil and heat means for heating said oil in said tank~~, said filter system comprising:

a ~~drain for said tank for containing oil and a drain for said tank~~ including a separately controlled outlet and a drain pipe in communication with said outlet, said drain pipe having a downspout;

a substantially rectangular open filter pan disposed below said downspout and a substantially flat filter horizontally disposed within said pan below said downspout ~~whereby oil to be filtered is directed by said downspout onto the upper surface of said filter~~, said filter being vertically movable within said pan;

~~return means~~ a return for drawing filtered oil from said pan and returning said oil to said tank including a pump means and a valve means for directing filtered oil from the filter pan to said tank;

said return ~~means~~ further including a take-up pipe having an end releasably coupled to said filter and an opposite end in communication with said pump and a swivel mounting means carried by said pipe at said opposite end whereby when said end is uncoupled from said filter said pipe can be rotated away from said filter;

a first switch means coupled to said the pump means and the valve means for simultaneously controlling said the valve means and said the pump means; and

an inline filter means disposed within said take-up pipe for further filtering said filtered oil from the filter pan before it is returned to said tank.

2. (Original). The system of claim 1 wherein said inline filter is removable from said pipe.

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3. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1 wherein said downspout has a curved end for directing oil downwardly at an acute angle to said filter and a rotatable mounting means handle whereby said downspout can be rotated from a downwardly directed first position and a horizontal second position.

4. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1 wherein said return means further includes a coupling means slidably connecting said pickup pipe and said filter pan.

5. (Currently amended) The coupling means of claim [[5]] 4 further comprising a U-shaped bracket.

6. (Original) The system of claim 3 wherein said downspout is slidably mounted on said drain pipe.

7. (Currently amended) The system of claim 6 wherein said filter pan further comprises a crumb tray disposed below said downspout and beside said filter for receiving oil to be filtered and a baffle means carried by said tray for directing said oil onto the upper surface of said filter.

8. (Currently amended) The system of claim 3 further comprising ~~polish means~~ a polishing circuit for recirculating filtered oil for refiltering without passing through said tank.

9. (Currently amended) The system of claim 8 wherein ~~said polish means~~ the polishing circuit includes a tube rotatably mounted on said fryer and emptying into said filter pan, said tube rotatable between a downwardly directed first position and a horizontal second position.

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10. (Currently amended) The system of claim 9 further comprising a releasable ~~stabilizing means~~ stabilizer connecting said tube and said downspout whereby rotation of said downspout will rotate said tube simultaneously between said first and second positions.

11. (Currently amended) The system of claim 10 wherein said stabilizer ~~stabilizing means~~ includes a clip releasably engaging said tube.

12. (Currently amended) The system of claim 9 further comprising a second switch ~~means~~ coupled to said pump ~~means~~ and said valve ~~means~~ for selectively directing the output of said pump to said tank or said tube.

13-14. Cancelled